

**National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC 20594**

Brief of Accident

Adopted 04/01/2003

DEN02TA092 File No. 12769	08/14/2002	Broomfield, CO	Aircraft Reg No. N91092	Time (Local): 10:11 MDT		
Make/Model:	Air Tractor / AT-802A			Fatal	Serious	Minor/None
Engine Make/Model:	Pratt & Whitney / PT6A-65B		Crew	0	0	1
Aircraft Damage:	Substantial		Pass	0	0	0
Number of Engines:	1					
Operating Certificate(s):	None					
Type of Flight Operation:	Public Use					
Reg. Flight Conducted Under:	Public Use					
Last Depart. Point: Same as Accident/Incident Location			Condition of Light: Day			
Destination: Local Flight			Weather Info Src: Weather Observation Facility			
Airport Proximity: On Airport			Basic Weather: Visual Conditions			
Airport Name: Jeffco Airport			Lowest Ceiling: None			
Runway Identification: 29R			Visibility: 50.00 SM			
Runway Length/Width (Ft): 9000 / 100			Wind Dir/Speed: 250 / 015 Kts			
Runway Surface: Asphalt			Temperature (°C): 28			
Runway Surface Condition: Dry			Precip/Obscuration: None / None			
Pilot-in-Command	Age: 43		Flight Time (Hours)			
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)			Total All Aircraft: 5167			
Commercial; Single-engine Land			Last 90 Days: 64			
Instrument Ratings			Total Make/Model: 124			
Airplane			Total Instrument Time: 112			

The pilot taxied onto runway 29R, with approximately 700 gallons of fire retardant. He started the takeoff roll and at approximately 800 to 900 feet down the runway he heard a "distinct bang." The airplane immediately started an uncommanded turn to the left, and the pilot, using right rudder and right braking action, could not regain control of the aircraft. The airplane departed the runway and impacted the Visual Approach Slope Indicator box, which sheared the right main landing gear off. Subsequently, the right wing and aileron were bent up. Postaccident examination of the airplane by maintenance personnel revealed that the left main tire inner seal had separated from the wheel. No determination was made why this event occurred. A Federal Aviation Administration inspector said he found two black skid marks on the runway; the left one started 10 to 15 feet before the right one.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

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File No. 12769	08/14/2002	Broomfield, CO	Aircraft Reg No. N91092	Time (Local): 10:11 MDT

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

1. (C) LANDING GEAR,TIRE - FAILURE

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

2. (F) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

3. (F) OBJECT - VASI LIGHT/SYSTEM

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows.
the airplane's left main landing gear tire separated from its wheel during takeoff roll for an undetermined reason. Contributing factors were the pilot's inability to maintain aircraft control during takeoff roll and the subsequent impact with the Visual Approach Slope Indicator box.